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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

International Patent Application of:	)	Attorney Docket No.: 23452-092
	)	
Brendan P. MURRAY <i>et al.</i>	)	Group Art Unit: 2177
	)	
CPA of Serial No.: 09/384,088	)	Examiner: S. Channavajjala
	)	
Filed: August 28, 2002	)	Confirmation No.: 7366
	)	
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR EVALUATING CHARACTER SETS TO GENERATE A SEARCH INDEX	)	

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RECEIVED**

SEP 17 2002

Technology Center 2100

**RECEIVED**

SEP 16 2002

~~Technology Center 2600~~

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims 1, 9, 17, 25, and 33-36 as follows below. In addition, please add new claims 37-39 as follow below.

- SUB C37
- 31
1. (**Amended**) A method of evaluating characters in an inputted search string to generate a search index, comprising the steps of:
    - a) accepting an input of the characters of the search string, wherein the characters can be represented in any of a plurality of character sets corresponding to an undetermined language;